

(Washington, DC) Today, Congressman Alcee L. Hastings (D-Miramar) recognized the 90th anniversary of the adoption of the 19th

Amendment:

“Every year, our country marks August 26th as ‘Women’s Equality Day.’ On the 90th anniversary of the women’s suffrage movement’s great victory, we commemorate the countless suffragettes and pioneers whose courageous and persistent struggle on behalf of women’s rights resulted in securing civil rights and political independence for American women. The courage, determination, and tenacity of the remarkable tens of thousands women who united across the country to win the right to vote should be recognized and revered today.”

“These brave women waged a non-violent campaign for 72 years and, as someone who has fought for civil rights my entire life, I am proud to pay my respects today to the mothers, daughters, grandmothers, and sisters for their historical achievement.”

“In the years since the ratification of the 19th Amendment, critical milestones for women’s equality have been reached. Today, we have women serving at every level of government, including a woman as Speaker of the House and a woman as our country’s Secretary of State, as well as three women justices sitting on the United States Supreme Court. These are but a few examples of the important strides we have made in the fight for gender equality in our country. On this day, we recommit ourselves to continue moving forward together in the name of social and political equality for all Americans.”

On August 26, 1920, the 19th Amendment, guaranteeing women the right to vote, was formally certified by proclamation of Secretary of State Bainbridge Colby. The text of the amendment reads: "The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex" and "Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation."

Congressman Alcee L. Hastings is Vice Chairman of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, a senior member of the House Rules Committee, and Co-Chairman of the U.S. Helsinki Commission.

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